



Fourth Annual Report

OF THE

Parish Association

OF THE



Church of the Holy Apostles, Philadelphia.
The First Building, 1868—1873.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY APOSTLES

Philadelphia.

AS READ AT THE ANNIVERSARY, SUNDAY EVENING, JANUARY 27, 1878.

FOURTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

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PHILADELPHIA.

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McLAUGHLIN BROTHERS' BOOK AND JOB PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT:

112 AND 114 SOUTH THIRD STREET.

1878.

REPORT.

Philadelphia, January 27th, 1878.

To the Congregation and Friends
OF THE
Church of the Holy Apostles:

As is customary at this time, the committee appointed by the Parish Association, present to you the Fourth Annual Report of that organization, embracing the work of the parish for the year which has recently closed.

The Association we thus represent was established in 1874, with a view of enlisting the active co-operation of the members of the congregation in the work which is laid upon our church; and to bring, at monthly meetings, the operations of the several Committees before the members, to stimulate to renewed effort, and to consult as to future measures to the same end.

We believe that this organization has been beneficial, if for no other reason, in thus uniting the congregation.

The Rector reports that the church services have been held regularly, without interruption, in the morning and evening, and that with the exception of the summer months, there has been a weekly service on Wednesday evenings; also that during Lent, and before and after the Annual Confirmation, a number of extra services were held, at all these extra services and at the regular stated ones the attendance has been very large, and there has been a noticeable increase in the size of the Sunday evening congregations.

The Monthly Services of Song are continued, and have not only maintained their hold upon the congregation, as evidenced by the very large number of persons present, but seem to meet most admirably the purpose for which they were intended, being specially to secure the attendance of the parents of the Sunday School children who do not or cannot attend regularly the ordinary services. Services have been held as usual on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas and a Watch Meeting on New Year's Eve.

There have been during 1877 :

Infant Baptisms	52
Adult	5
Confirmed	46
Funerals attended	24
Marriages solemnized	13
Present Number of Communicants	356

The Holy Communion is administered every second Sunday of the month, and Infant Baptism on the Fourth Sunday.

Total Amount of Communion offertories \$147.58

The accounting Warden presents the following statement of his accounts which are herewith submitted :

RECEIPTS.

Pew Rents,	\$2,092.29
Collections,	437.48
Parish Association,	500.00
Sunday Schools,	340.00
Contributions and Subscriptions,	601.16
Choir, proceeds of two Concerts,	155.00
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	\$4,125.93

EXPENDITURES.

Deficiency 1876,	\$231.22
Current Expenses, Salary of Rector, Sexton, etc, . . .	2,749.18
Gas and Fuel,	487.74
Interest on Ground Rent,	600.00
Convention Fund,	50.00
Insurance,	50.00
Episcopal Hospital Collection,	35.00
Young Men's Christian Association,	20.66
Repairs and Improvements,	229.05
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	\$4,452.85

Deficiency, \$326.92

Some changes will be noticed in comparing this statement with that of last year. The pew rents have fallen off about \$70, and the Sunday collections \$120; doubtless owing to the hard times. Still all things considered, we think the revenue of the church has been in the main satisfactory. It must, however, be borne in mind that the expenses, with the greatest care and economy, exceed the receipts, and that there is a yearly recurring deficiency to be met. The Warden would, therefore, again urge upon the congregation the duty of aiding the Parish Association, by contributing to its funds, and engaging in its work, as through its means these deficiencies may be met. It will

be remembered also that the large Sunday schools are not only supported by the teachers and their friends, without any charge to the congregation, but that they have, besides, contributed \$340 to the support of the church. Also, that the music is no expense whatever, being rendered freely and voluntarily. As was noticed last year, the mortgage upon the church building had been reduced to \$3000. A strong effort is now being made to entirely liquidate it.*

The effective work of the Association is confided to committees, whose work will either appear from their several reports, or be stated in connection therewith.

The first of these committees is that of Sunday schools and Bible classes. From their report we learn, number on the roll :

Officers and teachers, 75; scholars—main school, 460; infant school, 280; bible classes, 290; total scholars, 1030. Total in all, 1105. Average attendance during 1877, including July and August, teachers 64, scholars 672, total 756; excluding July and August, teachers 70, scholars 734, total 804. The largest attendance was Sunday, December 23, 1004; and the smallest July 29, 374. The Superintendent again calls attention to the large average attendance of teachers being 64, or 86 per cent. of the whole number. Exclusive of July and August, it was 95 per cent.

The general sessions of the schools are held every Sunday afternoon at 2.15, and in addition adult bible classes are held Sunday morning at 9.30.

On the first Sunday in 1878, the International Series of Lessons, as adapted to our Church year by a committee of clergymen of the church was taken up, and great interest and attention in the study of the Word is manifested by both teachers and scholars.

The Weekly Teachers' Meetings for Lesson study are continued, as usual, they are held every Friday evening, except during the two summer months, and the Lesson for the following Sunday is taught by the Superintendent, a feature of this Meeting is the attendance upon its sessions of older scholars, who are looking forward to becoming teachers, the result of this has been very satisfactory, enabling the Superintendent to substitute in case of a regular teacher's absence, one known to him as capable of filling the post, and giving him a number of his pupils who devote themselves to proper preparation for the work.

The meetings have been of great assistance in many ways, and are undoubtedly at the very foundation of the success of the school.

* This effort has been entirely successful, and the mortgage was paid and satisfied February 1st.

The average attendance has been :

Teachers,	39
Other persons,	13

The Superintendent must repeat his language in the report of last year, and refer with thankfulness to the personal sympathy and attachment which exists between himself and his teachers, and also in great measure between the latter and their scholars; he has had brought to his notice many instances of unwearying devotion on the part of the teachers in dealing with scholars, and a constant looking out for their spiritual interests. To this he ascribes under God, the large number, aggregating nearly 40, who during the year consecrated themselves to the service of Christ.

The scholars again voted to dispense with a Christmas festival, and instead thereof to make an offering in aid of the efforts to liquidate the mortgage already referred to. This offering was made this afternoon and reached the sum of \$485.39.

Through the kindness of a friend the school were, however, entertained by a performance of magic, etc., which being in a measure unexpected, was greatly enjoyed by all.

The Anniversary was held as usual on Easter Sunday, and the special Christmas Service, December 23d.

The Library has been thoroughly overhauled and put in complete order, with the addition of a number of new volumes, it is now open every Sunday.

The number of volumes is 775.

The Teacher's Library of books of reference contains 265 volumes, besides which there are libraries connected with the Bible Classes numbering 179 volumes, making in all in connection with the school 1219 volumes.

The Treasurer of the School reports :

Total Amount contributed and collected by Teachers and Scholars in 1877,	\$1,117.49
Balance from 1876,	28.06
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	\$1,145.55

EXPENDED.

Support of the Church,	\$340.00
For the Library,	112.05
Bibles and Hymn Books, Printing, Stationery, and general support of the Schools, including relief furnished,	395.81
Outside Missionary purposes,	66.76
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Balance,	\$230.93

The Committee on Parish Library reports that the same is opened every Wednesday evening, and its privileges availed of by the congregation and their friends, the number of volumes is 825; the library needs replenishing, and new books to take the place of many old ones, the library is appreciated, but its usefulness would be greatly increased if it could be made more attractive by being removed to a larger room, with the addition of current magazines, and papers on file; an effort will probably be made to accomplish this, but in the mean time the librarian desires donations in books or money; the work is a most important one, as is anything which tends to overcome the demoralizing literature of the period.

The next committee, that of Church Hospitality, can give no statistical report of their work. Their duty is to extend a hearty welcome to strangers who may be in attendance upon the services, and as our church is situated in a rapidly increasing neighborhood, with an ever changing population, there are frequently many such present at a single service. The Committee is in attendance before and after all the stated services, both Sunday and week day, to greet strangers, provide them with seats, and introduce them to the Rector when desired. Their work, though very modest, requires much care and time and is very thoroughly performed. Cards with the services of the Church are printed and distributed.

The Committee on Cottage Lectures report 20 meetings held, with an average attendance of 20: after the commencement of the weekly Wednesday evening service in the fall, it was deemed advisable to suspend for a time these meetings, as they interfered somewhat with the regular service; instead thereof the Committee have begun a Young Men's Meeting, which is held every Sunday evening, for a half an hour before service, the success attending this effort has very gratifying, a very large number are present who are led afterwards into the Church, thus increasing the attendance there.

The Chairman of the Committee on Workingmen's Club states that, owing to the continued period of depression, it has been deemed best for the present not to make an effort to obtain a room outside, as was hoped in last year's report, but to await more favorable times; the number of members is 40, volumes in the Library 50, balance in Treasurer's hands \$74.49.

A very successful social excursion to Glenolden Grove was made in the early part of July.

The Committee on District Visiting report that they have canvassed the neighborhood of the Church as thoroughly as possible, with

the view of securing the attendance upon the Services and Sunday school of those who do not go elsewhere. The members have paid 270 visits, and have also been the means of bringing cases of need before the proper parish agencies for relief; they have distributed \$36, besides groceries, clothing, shoes, etc.

From the Committee on Mothers' Meetings, the following statement is furnished: They were commenced December 22, 1876, and continued to March 2, 1877.

Number held,	14
Average attendance,	36
Garments made,	304
Given to Sunday school children and others,	201
Sold,	103

Under the auspices of this committee, families who have been in absolute want, have been supplied with provisions and groceries, and assisted in paying their rent.

Several donations in material were received, and the donations in money amounted to \$203.90; expended, \$197.17; balance, \$6.73.

The meetings are held weekly on Friday afternoons, are opened and closed with religious exercises, and while the members were working, some entertaining and instructive book is read. We again most heartily commend this practical effort to the support of all.

The Committee on Missionary Work have aided that of District Visiting, by relieving such cases of actual distress as have been reported. They cannot, for very obvious reasons, give a detailed report of their operations; as before, they hold themselves in readiness to visit promptly, and furnish relief as they are enabled.

The Committee on Mite Collections report through the Treasurer, who is Chairman of the same.

The last Committee on the list is that of Music. They report that the Choir numbers some thirty ladies and gentlemen, whose services are voluntarily rendered, not only at the Sunday, but also on the week day services. As will be seen by the report of the Accounting Warden, they have contributed towards the funds of the church, as the result of two concerts, the sum of \$155, besides supplying all the music books needed.

Your committee must again tender its grateful acknowledgments to the members of the choir, for the hearty and cheerful manner in which they have performed their duties, and led in the simple congregational singing which has been so characteristic of all our services.

The Treasurer of the Association reports:

RECEIPTS.

Balance from 1876,	\$350.37
Cash from Mite Collections,	53.52
" " Church,	89.50
" " Donations,	30.00
" " Strawberry Festival,	324.80
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	\$848.19

PAYMENTS.

Church Warden,	\$500.00
Missionary Committee,	40.50
Mother's Meeting Committee,	50.00
District Visiting Committee,	39.76
Printing,	23.00
Expenses of Easter Anniversary and Dressing Church at Easter and Christmas,	89.45
Sodding and Planting,	27.01
Sundries,	13.67
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Balance,	\$783.31
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	\$64.80

Grouping together then the various Treasurer's reports, and we find the total amount from all sources, including pew rental, subscriptions, collections, donations, entertainments, and balances on hand at the commencement of the year was

\$5,544 06

and the expenditures were

Support of the Church,	\$4,168.14
Repairs and Improvements,	229.05
Support of the Sunday Schools, Library, etc.,	507.86
Printing, and Expenses of Anniversary and Dressing Church at Christmas and Easter,	116.46
Missionary Purposes,	472.52
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Balance	5,494.03
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	\$50.03

Represented by

Sunday School Treasury,	\$230.93
Parish Association,	64.80
Workingmen's Club,	74.49
Mothers' Meeting,	6.73
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	\$376.95
Deficiency in Accounting Wardens,	326.92
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	\$50.02

There are many matters in conclusion, to which your committee would wish to refer, but the length of the Report already, admonishes them to be brief; there is, however, one subject that on this occasion we may allude to with deep thankfulness and gratitude, which is that we are enabled to celebrate the Tenth Anniversary of the organization of our parish; in this connection a few remarks relative to its commencement may not be deemed inappropriate.

The formation of the Parish was the result of several conferences, held under the direction of Rev. Phillips Brooks, then Rector of the Church of the Holy Trinity, and Rev. Samuel E. Appleton, Rector of the Church of the Mediator, and the first Vestry composed of members of these two Parishes, was chosen January 7th, 1868, and consisted of the following gentlemen :

LEWIS H. REDNER,	WARDENS.
GEO. C. THOMAS,	
LEMUEL COFFIN,	ALFRED M. COLLINS,
JOHN BOHLEN,	FRANCIS HOSKINS,
CHARLES GIBBONS,	GEO. S. FOX,
EZRA BOWEN,	S. A. RULON,
WM. P. CRESSON,	DR. ROB'T HUEY.

The services were commenced on Sunday evening, January 26th, 1868, in the Lecture Room of Tabor Presbyterian Church, when the sermon was preached by the Rev. Mr. Brooks; he was followed on the succeeding Sunday evening by Rev. Mr. Appleton, and the pulpit was supplied by the clergy of the city until Sunday, September 6th, of the same year, when the present Rector, Rev. Chas. D. Cooper, entered upon his work, in the new frame building, erected through the liberality of John Rice, Esq., and occupied as Church and Sunday School until the completion of the present school building. In the spring of 1869, work was commenced upon the Church building, and it was completed, and the first service held, on Sunday, December 11th, 1870. In the spring of 1872, the construction of the Sunday School building was begun; it was finished and occupied for the first time, on Sunday, February 16th, 1873. From the time the services of the Church were inaugurated, in Tabor Church, to the present occasion, they have been held stately upon every Sunday without an exception.

During this period there have been 9 confirmations, at which 290 persons have been confirmed, there have been 35 adults and 455 infants baptized; 95 marriages solemnized, and 240 funeral services attended.

The Sunday School has grown to the number reported as now on

the roll, from 37 who were present on the Sunday morning ten years ago; during the whole of this period, summer and winter and on every Sunday, a regular session has been held; to show the gradual increase, the average attendance of each year is submitted : 1868, 144; 1869, 220; 1870, 237; 1871, 330; 1872, 370; 1873, 514; 1874, 650; 1875, 696; 1876, 716; 1877, 756.

It is not our purpose, nor would it be proper, to dwell upon these statistics too much, they are submitted in all humility, as we are conscious that all we do is subject to the Divine approval, and that the measure of that was expressed by Him we serve, when He said "She hath done what she could "

We should render thanksgiving to God to-night for many mercies but for none more than that He has preserved us from all discord, and has permitted us to work unitedly, without a difference between minister and people, here in His vineyard.

As He has been with us in the past may He continue to be with us in the future, permitting us to be His servants here that we may be partakers of His glory forever.

Your friends and fellow workers,

CHAS. D. COOPER, RECTOR,
GEO. C. THOMAS,
W. D. THOMAS,
R. A. KYLE,

Committee.